

Finance, Legislation and Planning (FL&P) Committee Meeting
Norfolk Waterside Marriott
November 11, 2009
5:00 p.m.

| Members Present: | Members Absent: | OEMS Staff: | Others: |
|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Dr. Robin Foster | Art Lipscomb | Dr. George Lindbeck | Melissa Doak |
| Kent Weber | Randy Abernathy | Tim Perkins | Karen Wagner |
| Ed Rhodes | | Wanda Street | Pokey Harris |
| Mike Harmon | | Scott Winston (late) | |
| Michael Player | | Jim Nogle | |
| Rob Logan | | | |
| Byron Andrews | | | |
| Gary Dalton | | | |

| Topic/Subject | Discussion | Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person |
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| Opening: | Rob Logan began the meeting since Mr. Abernathy was not present to do so. The minutes from the August 7, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved. | Motion to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2009 meeting made by Ed Rhodes. Seconded by Mike Harmon. |
| OEMS Update: | The OEMS update was deferred upon the arrival of Gary Brown or Scott Winston. | |
| EMS Needs Assessment - Rob Logan | <p>Two proposals have been received from consultants. The workgroup met by conference call with each consultant group and one quote was about \$55,000 and the other was about \$40,000. Funds are not available to handle such a large expense, so the committee will have to regroup. Some assistance will be needed in developing the survey, because it should be meaningful and measurable. However, we will not be able to hire a consultant to do as much as we had initially hoped.</p> <p>Mike Player asked about looking at an academic approach. The Committee could construct the survey but get someone else to evaluate it.</p> <p>Rob stated that this is a possibility that will be further evaluated. Tim stated that internally, the office has looked into the possibility of getting a student from University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) come down and assist with this project.</p> | |
| Proposed 2010 EMS Legislative Agenda: | <p>1. Summary of Virginia Fire Service Council Legislative Summit October 16 (Gary Dalton)</p> <p>There were no adversarial issues. Michael Player stated that he is interested in the move of the Office of EMS into Public Safety. At the last vote two years ago, there was no consensus among the state EMS Advisory Board and a straw vote has held. Someone may need to meet with Governor-Elect Bob McDonnell to see where he stands on this issue. Rob Logan feels that this may not be the best time to bring this forth because there are so many other issues in the General Assembly. Kent asked who was</p> | |

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| | <p>on the transition team. A new transition team for the Governor-Elect is being formed. Gary Dalton stated that this item could be brought before the state EMS Advisory Board. Rob suggested getting a poll of the EMS Advisory Board members. Rob Logan doesn't feel that it is in the best interest of this committee to introduce this now. He also stated that there is no opportunity for the Advisory Board to take an official opinion on any issue this year.</p> <p>2. Review summary of EMS Code and Regulations (Melissa Doak, former OEMS Program Representative)</p> <p>Melissa was contacted by OEMS in March 2009 and asked to work on the project of looking at the <u>Code of Virginia</u> to find items of interest. She spent the months of April – August working on the <u>Code</u>. Two documents were sent out by email: Items for Potential Change and Items of Interest. What she found was that the code was not consistent. EMS providers are referred to 11 different ways in the Commonwealth of Virginia: rescue squad, lifesaving crew, non-profit licensed EMS agency, EMS Agency, lifesaving organization, fire department, volunteer rescue squad, non-profit rescue service, bona fide fire department, EMS department, and fire company. She pointed out sections of the code where making a change to one section would change multiple sections of the Code of Virginia. She gave an example using the surrendering law of infants. In this case if you change any section of that section it will change four different sections of the Code of Virginia. She also pointed out irregularities in the <u>Code</u>. She said that there were some sections where the term “firefighter” or “paramedic” is used but there is no reference to an EMT or anyone else. She said that she looked at §15.2953 which relates to a charitable donation situation. Ms. Doak suggested that anytime you are involved with money you may want to say a “non-profit licensed EMS agency” if it is involving donations. Throughout the <u>Code</u>, she pointed out different areas where the terms need to be cleaned up because there was no consistency.</p> <p>Mr. Dalton said that everyone received the document and has had an opportunity to look it over. Mr. Dalton asked if they should make individual revisions to the areas of the <u>Code</u> with inconsistencies. After discussion, it was agreed that Ms. Doak will send the document to Mr. Rhodes. Mr. Rhodes will choose and highlight some of the non-controversial items. He will distribute the document to the committee and if they are in consensus, they will then, as a group send the document to Legislative Services Chairman of the Code Committee and ask them if there is an opportunity to have them clean up some of the inconsistencies that have been found in the <u>Code</u> sections.</p> <p>3. Identify Legislative Initiatives for 2010 (Gary Dalton)</p> <p>Mr. Dalton asked Mr. Rhodes to report on the budget. Mr. Rhodes said that the Four-for-Life budget is going to be a major obstacle. He said that it is his understanding that the State Police is going to try to keep the monies. Mr. Rhodes said that he has talked to Senator Houck and he wants to talk to the State Police. He has asked Mr. Rhodes for some additional information regarding Medevac Programs in VA, both commercial and State Police operated, so that he can discuss that issue with the State Police. They</p> | <p>Ms. Doak will forward the documents she has prepared to Mr. Rhodes.</p> <p>Mr. Rhodes will review the documents, highlight areas that do not appear to be controversial, and distribute a list of Code sections that can be revised with relatively simple “clean-up” language. A list agreed upon by the Committee will be forwarded to the Code Commission for requested action.</p> |

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| | <p>feel that the biggest obstacle is going to be the fact that there are not any commercial helicopters in the Lynchburg area.</p> <p>Mr. Rhodes said that another item is the initiative to allow ALS providers to administer vaccines. The Governor has advised his staff to draft a bill that will allow ALS providers to administer vaccines.</p> <p>Mr. Dalton asked if anyone was aware of any Department of Health legislative initiatives. No one had any knowledge of any.</p> | |
| <p>State EMS Strategic Plan – Tim Perkins:</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review Strategic Plan Information from Committees of EMS Advisory Board <p>Mr. Perkins said that Mr. Winston distributed the planning templates that they received from each committee by Email prior to the Committee meeting. Mr. Perkins pointed out there are a lot of similarities among the committees in terms of their goals.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Develop action plan to update State EMS Plan <p>The next step is to evaluate what was submitted by the committees against the existing EMS plan and the accomplishments they have made since the last version of the Plan. Mr. Perkins plans to have a rough draft in February 2010 for the committee to review so that it can be submitted to the state EMS Advisory Board in May 2010. Mr. Perkins said he plans to have the committee do a lot of work on the Plan.</p> <p>The committee discussed how the process was completed in the past and the best approach for this year. Mr. Player suggested taking the current plan, take the input they have received from the committees, look at the core strategies and initiatives and determine if they have been completed. They need to determine if they are still relevant or if they need to be changed or revised.</p> <p>Mr. Dalton said that the FLP Committee needs its own strategies initiatives. He brought home four initiatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update and keep current the Virginia EMS Plan 2. Develop a process to conduct, present and maintain a comprehensive Needs Assessment for EMS issues. 3. Host or participate in existing EMS related legislative agendas/summits. 4. Regularly disseminate vital information regarding threats and opportunities related to EMS Legislation, Finance and Planning. <p>Mr. Dalton also drafted a mission statement for the FLP Committee (below).</p> | <p>Mr. Dalton asked the group to vote on accepting the four core initiatives</p> <p>Motion: The Finance, Legislation and Planning Committee agree to accept the following four strategic initiatives.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update and keep current the Virginia EMS Plan 2. Develop a process to conduct, present and maintain a comprehensive Needs Assessment for EMS issues. 3. Host or participate in existing EMS related legislative agendas/summits. 4. Regularly disseminate vital information regarding threats and opportunities related to EMS Legislation, Finance and Planning. <p>The motion was seconded by Byron Andrews and the vote was taken.</p> |

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| | <p>Mission Statement: Trust and to collaborate with every person, group or organization to provide social influence on matters that affect EMS Legislation, Finance and Planning issues.</p> <p>It was pointed out, however, that the committee had previously voted on and accepted a Mission Statement (below):</p> <p><i>Mission Statement: The EMS System Finance, Legislation and Planning Committee will advise and coordinate efforts of the state EMS Advisory Board in its various standing and ad hoc committees as they relate to finance, legislation and planning in order to best serve the overall needs of the EMS system in Virginia.</i></p> | <p>The motion carried unanimously.</p> |
| PUBLIC COMMENT | None | |
| UNFINISHED BUSINESS | None | |
| NEW BUSINESS | None | |
| MEETING DATES 2010 | <p>The committee agreed to meet a prior to the state EMS Advisory Board meeting in November. The committee agreed to meet on the same day of the Virginia Fires Services Council Legislative Summit (in mid October 2010) either at the VAVRS office in Oilville, VA or wherever they agreed to hold the summit. The other meetings of FLP will be held at 9AM on the same day as the state EMS Advisory Board meetings.</p> | |
| Adjournment | The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 PM. | |